

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 IO-11 /082 W

----- 066881

R 051430Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3190

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1496

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NI, AO

SUBJ: ANGOLA MISCELLANY

1. SWEDISH AMBASSADOR WOLLTER WAS TOLD AS FOLLOWS SEVERAL DAYS AGO
BY MEA'S ACTING DIRECTOR OF AFRICAN DEPARTMENT:

A) NIGERIA WILL DEFINITELY NOT RPT NOT SEND ANY TROOPS TO
ANGOLA;

B) NIGERIA STILL WANTS TO SEE THE MPLA GET TOGETHER WITH
THEIR FNLA AND UNITA BROTHERS AND IS URGING THEM TO DO SO;
(BBC THIS MORNING REPORTS STATEMENT ALONG THIS LINE BY BRIGADIER
OBASANJO ATTENDING MPLA CELEBRATIONS IN LUANDA.)

C) MEA HAS "EXCELLENT INFORMATION" INDICATING THERE ARE TWELVE
THOUSAND SOUTH AFRICAN SOLDIERS IN ANGOLA;

D) SWEDEN SHOULD RECOGNIZE THE MPLA IN SPITE OF SWEDEN'S
FORMALISTIC ADHERENCE TO "CONTROL OF TERRITORY" CRITERION. TO DO
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SO WOULD ASSIST IN ENCOURAGING THE MPLA TO BE INDEPENDENT OF

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND MAGNANIMOUS WITH FNLA/UNITA RIVALS.
(WOLLTER IS PERSONALLY SYMPATHETIC WITH THIS VIEW BUT SAYS IT WOULD
NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR HIM TO RECOMMEND IT.)

2. LESOTHO MINISTER EDUCATION KOTSOKOANE, FORMERLY FOREIGN
MINISTER, TOLD ME AT UNESCO EDUCATION CONFERENCE DINNER FEB 3
THAT HE WAS PERSONALLY URGING CHIEF JONATHAN TO RECOGNIZE THE
MPLA IMMEDIATELY. HE SAID HE THOUGHT LESOTHO GOVERNMENT WOULD
FOLLOW HIS ADVICE. "WE WANT ALL THREE GROUPS TO GET TOGETHER,
BUT NOW THAT THE MPLA IS DOMINANT WE HAVE TO ACCEPT REALITY.
TO CONTINUE TO VIEW THE THREE GROUPS AS EQUALLY DESERVING NO
LONGER SERVES THE CAUSE OF ANGOLAN UNITY - AND YOU KNOW WE ALL
HAVE OUR OWN SEPARATIST PROBLEMS AT HOME TO WORRY ABOUT."

3. SOVIET AMBASSADOR TETERIN FEBRUARY 3 GAVE ME STANDARD SOVIET
LINE JUSTIFYING SUPPORT OF "NATIONAL LIBERATION" ACTIVITIES.
AS ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS WHEN I HAVE DISCUSSED ANGOLA WITH HIM
AND OTHER MEMBERS HIS STAFF, SOVIET DIPLOMATS REFUSE ACKNOWLEDGE
ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRE-INDEPENDENCE SUPPORT OF LIBERATION
GROUP AND POST-INDEPENDENCE SUPPORT FOR ONE OF SEVERAL COMPETING
ANGOLAN POLITICAL FACTIONS, NOR ARE THEY WILLING TO ACCEPT AS
RELEVANT THE FACT THAT ARMS ONCE GIVEN FOR USE AGAINST PORTUGUESE
ARE NOW SUPPLIED FOR USE AGAINST ANGOLANS. TETERIN ADMITS, HOW-
EVER, THAT HAD SOUTH AFRICA NOT INTERVENED AND THUS LEGITIMIZED
SOVIET AND CUBAN AID, CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR MPLA MIGHT HAVE RUN
INTO REAL TROUBLE. GARBA'S CONDEMNATION OF SOVIET INTERVENTION
IN EARLY NOVEMBER, ISSUED FIRST FROM KAMPALA AND REPEATED UPON
HIS RETURN TO LAGOS, HAD THE SOVIETS REALLY WORRIED.
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